

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the College Park City Council
Tuesday, January 22, 2013
7:30 p.m. – 8:19 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Andrew Fellows; Councilmembers Kabir, Wojahn, Dennis, Catlin, Day, Afzali and Mitchell.

ABSENT: Councilmember Stullich.

ALSO PRESENT: Joe Nagro, City Manager; Janeen Miller, City Clerk; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Chantal Cotton, Assistant to the City Manager; Terry Schum, Director of Planning; Bob Ryan, Director of Public Services.

Mayor Fellows opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Councilmember Afzali led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Councilmember Catlin and seconded by Councilmember Dennis to adopt the minutes of the January 8, 2013 Regular Meeting. The motion passed 7 – 0 – 0.

Announcements:

Councilmember Wojahn reminded everyone of next Tuesday's public forum for feedback on issues being addressed by the Neighborhood Stabilization and Quality of Life Workgroup. Written comments may be submitted, including name and address, to qualityoflife@collegetparkmd.gov.

Councilmember Catlin said there is a public meeting on Thursday on WSSC's efforts on stormwater improvements in the Anacostia river basin.

Councilmember Dennis said the Lakeland Civic Association's February meeting will be held on Thursday February 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the College Park Community Center.

Councilmember Mitchell said WSSC's proposed regulations are posted on their website. The City is hosting a pre-school fair on Saturday at the College Park Community Center from 12 – 2. Lastly, she said that there was a large turnout for the College Park Academy information meeting held last week.

Mayor Fellows displayed the award received by the City in recognition of its 50th year as a member of the National League of Cities. He also attended the US Conference of Mayors last week.

Amendments to the Agenda: None.

City Manager's Report: Mr. Nagro reminded everyone that there is no scheduled Council meeting next Tuesday. The Public Forum is scheduled for Tuesday night, and the City will host the Four Cities meeting on Wednesday night. He pointed out the red folder items.

Student Liaison's Report: Mr. Ratner reported that not much is going on because students just returned. The first SGA meeting of the semester is tomorrow night.

Comments from the Audience on Non-Agenda Items:

Morgan Lash, Miss College Park 2012: Ms. Lash introduced herself and discussed the opportunities she has had to serve the community since being crowned last April, and the many events she has attended. She is grateful for the scholarship funds she received.

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Councilmember Afzali and seconded by Councilmember Day to adopt the Consent Agenda which consisted of the following items:

- 13-G-10 Approval of a letter to the Board of License Commissioners that the City voices no objection to the annual renewal of Liquor Licenses for City establishments.**
- 13-G-11 Approval of an extension to the City's contract with Fireworks Extravaganza on the same terms and conditions as previously agreed, for another three years at \$17,500 per year, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney.**
- 13-G-12 Approval Of A Two-year Extension Of the Right-Of-Way Grass Mowing Contract (#CP-06-04) To ValleyCrest Landscape Maintenance, for the total amount of \$86,864.68.**
- 13-G-13 Award of a five year support and maintenance contract for College Park CCTV/LPR MESH Security Camera System in Old Town to Avrio RMS Group at a total cost of \$182,784, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney.**

The motion passed 7 – 0 – 0.

Action Items:

- 13-G-14 Award of FY '13 Community Services Grants totaling \$20,000 Funded In Account 1010-2520**

A motion was made by Councilmember Day and seconded by Councilmember Afzali that the City of College Park award the following grants under the FY 2013 community services grant program: The National Museum of Language, Inc., \$2,425 (of a \$2,500 request) for a part-time paid staff member; Lakeland Community Heritage Project, \$2,425 (of a \$2,500 request) towards funding for Lakeland Heritage events; American Legion Auxiliary, College Park Post 217, \$2,425 (of a \$2,500 request) for scholarships for Miss College Park pageant participants (to cover education expenses); Pregnancy Aid Centers, Inc., \$2,425 (of a \$2,500 request) for its food pantry program; Boy Scout Troop 298, \$1,500 (of a \$2,500 request) for leadership education for young men; Cub Scout Pack 298, \$1,500 (of a \$2,500 request) to subsidize the cub scout program in North College Park; College Park Woods Swim Club, \$2,425 (of a \$2,500 request) for a senior summer day camp; Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, \$500 (of a \$500 request) for its Safe Haven program; College Park Church of the Nazarene, \$1,950 (of a \$2,000 request) for the College Park community library; Embry Center for Family Life, \$2,425 (of a \$2,500 request) for the Lakeland All-

Stars basketball program. In accepting the grant award, each organization has executed a “hold harmless” agreement prepared by the City Attorney.

Councilmember Day stated that these grants are based on applications submitted by the deadline and reviewed by the Council at the January 15 Worksession. The 10 applications received requested a total of \$22,500 and were reviewed by a Council subcommittee which made an award recommendation to the full Council. Funding for these grants is provided in the FY 2013 adopted operating budget, account 1010-2520, in the amount of \$20,000. Some of the grants have been reduced from the amount requested in order to have the total grant awards not exceed the \$20,000 budgeted funds.

Councilmembers Dennis and Catlin said they would have to abstain from this item due to conflicts.

The motion passed 5 – 0 – 2 (Day and Catlin abstained).

13-G-05 Approval of a letter to the District Council with comments on Planning Board action on the Preliminary Greenbelt Metro Area and MD 193 Corridor Sector Plan and Proposed Sectional Map Amendment

A motion was made by Councilmember Wojahn and seconded by Councilmember Catlin that the City Council approve a letter to the Prince George’s County District Council that reflects the City’s analysis of the Planning Board’s resolution adopting the Greenbelt Metro Area and MD 193 Corridor Sector Plan and endorsing the Sectional Map Amendment and request the District Council to further amend the Sector Plan to incorporate City recommendations that were made on the record but not included in the resolution.

Councilmember Wojahn said the City of College Park submitted written testimony on the proposed Sector Plan and a number of north College Park residents and members of the City Council testified at the joint public hearing held on October 2, 2012. The Prince George’s County Planning Board approved Resolution 12-109 on December 13, 2012 adopting the Plan and was responsive to many of the City’s comments and recommendations. However, a number of areas of concern were not adopted by the Planning Board and the City would like the District Council to address them in their final approval of the Plan and Sectional Map Amendment. These issues relate to potentially negative impacts on North College Park from proposed development such as the height of buildings in the North Core of Greenbelt Station, location of parking garages and design of beltway access ramps. The District Council will hold a Worksession on February 5 and may subsequently approve, amend or disapprove the Plan. The District Council may also hold an additional joint public hearing prior to acting on the Plan if there is significant amendment to the plan.

Jackie Pearce Garrett, 9746 Wichita Avenue: She would like the City’s letter to be more forceful to reflect her concerns as a homeowner; the Sector Plan is willing to compromise much of what she likes about her neighborhood.

John Krouse, 9709 53rd Avenue, President, North College Park Citizens Association:

Concerned that many critical elements of the previous sector plan were not carried forward into this sector plan – they were abandoned. This sector plan does not represent our vision. Concerns outlined in his letter include architecture, building materials, reflected light and noise.

Councilmember Wojahn said some details such as materials will be fully addressed in the DSP. Ms. Schum stressed that the record is closed, and our letter cannot add anything new. Our purpose was to address items from our original letter that were not adopted by the Planning Board.

Councilmember Mitchell asked about Greenbelt's position. Ms. Schum said they are scheduled to take a position next week.

The motion carried 7 – 0 – 0.

13-O-01 Introduction of 13-O-01, An Ordinance Of The Mayor And Council Of The City Of College Park, Maryland, Amending Chapter 179 "Tree And Landscape Maintenance" To Amend §179-1, "Definitions", §179-2, "Purpose; Applicability", And §179-5 "Tree And Landscape Board" To Expand Or Clarify Certain Definitions, To Clarify That The Designees Of The Chairperson Of The Committee For A Better Environment, The Planning, Community And Economic Development Director And The Public Works Director May Act In Their Place As Voting Members Of The Tree And Landscape Board, And To Set The Quorum Of The Board As A Majority Of The Appointed Members.

A motion was made by Councilmember Mitchell and seconded by Councilmember Afzali to introduce 13–O-01, an Ordinance Of The Mayor And Council Of The City Of College Park, Maryland, Amending Chapter 179 "Tree And Landscape Maintenance" To Amend §179-1, "Definitions", §179-2, "Purpose; Applicability", And §179-5 "Tree And Landscape Board" To Expand Or Clarify Certain Definitions, To Clarify That The Designees Of The Chairperson Of The Committee For A Better Environment, The Planning, Community And Economic Development Director And The Public Works Director May Act In Their Place As Voting Members Of The Tree And Landscape Board, And To Set The Quorum Of The Board As A Majority Of The Appointed Members.

Councilmember Mitchell stated that the Public Hearing on this ordinance will be held on February 26, 2013 at 7:15 p.m.

Council Comments:

Councilmember Catlin said the deadline for applications to the College Park Academy is January 31 at 11:59 p.m. Early registration for the ITGA conference, which will be held in Buffalo, is the end of the month.

Councilmember Wojahn said Friday February 1 at the College Park Community Center is the community dream team basketball game.

Comments from the Audience:

John Krouse, 9709 53rd Avenue: Asked how long the County Council had to consider potential amendments to the Sector Plan. Ms. Schum said the District Council must act by March 11, and one of their actions could be to propose amendments for items that weren't on the record, in which case they are required to hold another public hearing.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Councilmember Wojahn and seconded by Councilmember Kabir to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Fellows adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m. with a vote of 7 – 0 – 0.

Janeen S. Miller, CMC
City Clerk

Date
Approved